

Gold drops to lowest level in 2 years

LONDON, Jan. 11 (R) — The price of gold dropped sharply on world bullion markets today to \$388 an ounce, its lowest level for two years. Investors who had expected some market resistance around the \$390 an ounce level were unsettled by the steep decline from Friday's closing London price of \$400. Bullion dealers said selling by professional traders and speculators, a price decline in the New York gold market last Friday and an absence of heavy buying by central banks and other large holders of gold had combined to push the price lower. They were unable to pinpoint any specific news factors depressing the metal but said that market speculation that the Soviet Union remained a net seller might have contributed to the setback.

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King receives
Kaddoumi,
Al Yahya

AMMAN, Jan. 11 (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein received at Al Hammam Palace this evening Head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Political Department Farouk Kaddoumi and Head of the PLO Office in Amman Abdul Razzaq Al Yahya. They reviewed the situation in the area and the developments of the Palestinian issue on the Arab and international levels.

Farmers banned
from cultivating
near Zarqa River

AMMAN, Jan. 11 (Petra) — The Higher Committee for Public Safety decided in its meeting today under its chairman, Interior Minister Suliman Arar, to issue a new defence order banning farmers from cultivating the agricultural lands on the Zarqa River, particularly that some farmers have ignored previous defence orders banning the cultivation of these lands after it has been ascertained that the water is contaminated with cholera. The committee also decided to ban pumping of water from Ayn Al Jami' area in the city of Salt after the Health Ministry has reported that the water is highly contaminated. Industry and Trade Minister Walid Asfour submitted a report to the committee pointing out that a large number of water treatment plants for factories built on the Zarqa River have been constructed and that the construction of other plants has been delayed for technical difficulties which will be overcome soon. At the end of the meeting, the committee decided to submit a recommendation to the Ministry of Information to continue its campaign of drawing people's attention to the significance of cleanliness and the protection of environment for public safety purposes.

Sudan assures Chad
it won't help rebels

KHARTOUM, Jan. 11 (A.P.) — President Jaafar Numeiri has promised Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei that Sudan will not be a base for Chadian rebels, the state radio reported today. The radio quoted Foreign Minister Mohammad Mirmighani as saying, Sudan would reopen its embassy in the Chadian capital, and resume commercial flights to Chad as a sign of support for Goukouni's government.

World Bank lends
\$29m to Morocco

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11 (A.P.) — The World Bank announced today a \$29 million loan to Morocco to support an agricultural development project in the Atlas Mountains. The loan will support a project combining interrelated actions in the forest, on the range and in cropping land.

Shamir returns
to Israel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 11 (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir returned to Israel today from a visit to Rome and said Israel's dialogue with the Vatican and the Italian government would continue. Mr. Shamir told reporters Israel's position in Europe had improved because of the change in France's attitude to the region and growing understanding in Europe that there could be no Middle East solution without taking Israel's interests and attitudes into account. Italian Prime Minister Giovanni Spadolini had proved to be a real friend who understood Israel's problems. Mr. Shamir said he had been welcomed by Pope John Paul II, who had told Pope John Paul II he had hoped the Pontiff would one day visit Israel.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جordan Times ينشر سلسلة تحليلية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية "الرأي"

Bomb injures Israeli police officer

TEL AVIV, Jan. 11 (A.P.) — Two bombs exploded in a crowded suburban market today, injuring one police bomb squad member, a police spokesman said. The bombs exploded in the market of Petah Tikva, 13 kms. northeast of Tel Aviv. A police explosives expert was slightly injured when a second bomb hidden in the same package as the first exploded as he was moving it, the spokesman said. Police suspected Palestinian commandos of placing the bombs, the spokesman said.

Recognition of Israel to be decided by all Arabs, Saudi Arabia says

BAHRAIN, Jan. 11 (R) — Saudi Arabia today ruled out recognition of Israel, except with the agreement of all Arab states and the Palestinians.

A royal palace spokesman, quoted by the Saudi press agency, said recognition of Israel and peace negotiations with it should be decided by all Arabs.

He said Saudi Arabia "does not accept any reference suggesting that Palestinians have to negotiate with or recognise Israel because no individual or group can speak for the Palestinians and because these issues of destiny must be decided by the Arab Nation."

The spokesman said his statement was in reply to wrong interpretations in the Arab and international press about Saudi Arabia's position on the Palestinian

problem and the issue of recognition of Israel.

Last week, the New York Times newspaper quoted Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal as saying in an interview that if Israel returned occupied Arab lands and recognised Palestinian rights, the kingdom would be prepared to accept it.

Meanwhile, Prince Talal, a one-time Saudi finance minister and a brother of King Khalid who is currently the kingdom's special envoy to UNESCO, was quoted over the weekend by the Paris magazine *Quotidien de Paris* as saying: "If Israel was not mentioned by name (in the plan), I think it was because the authors of the plan felt that the Palestinians ought to recognise the Israelis and the Israelis ought to recognise the Palestinians."

Saudi Arabia appears disturbed by Arab and other interpretations that its Middle East peace plan, announced last August, offers implicit recognition of Israel.

The eight-point plan, which has been opposed by some Arab countries and rejected by Israel, supports the right of all Middle East countries to live in peace and the creation of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

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Khaddam seeks to block U.S. veto

KUWAIT, Jan. 11 (R) — Syria has asked Saudi Arabia and other Gulf governments to try to prevent a United States veto of possible United Nations sanctions on Israel over its annexation of the Golan Heights, informed sources said today.

They said touring Syrian Foreign Minister Abd Al-Hafiz Khaddam was also urging the Gulf nations to take measures against the U.S. if Washington blocked action by the U.N. Security Council against Israel.

Syria has called for sanctions by the council which is currently debating the Golan issue after Israel rejected a council resolution last month demanding that the annexation be reversed.

The Reagan administration backed the council resolution and

suspended its newly-concluded strategic cooperation pact with Israel but has said it will veto any sanctions.

Mr. Khaddam, who arrived in Kuwait today after brief visits to Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Kuwait, is the second senior Syrian leader after President Hafez Al-Assad to tour the Gulf since the annexation of the Golan last month.

Percy, Fahd

BAHRAIN, Jan. 11 (R) — Senator Charles Percy, chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, conferred today with Saudi Crown Prince Fahd, the Saudi press agency said without giving

details. The senator is on a Middle East tour that has already taken him to Israel, Jordan, Egypt and Sudan. He goes to the United Arab Emirates on Friday for a three-day stay, the Emirates news agency said.

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Begin receives letter from Reagan

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (A.P.) — Prime Minister Menachem Begin met today with U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis who gave him a personal letter from President Ronald Reagan, a spokesman for the premier said.

Spokesman Uri Porat declined to comment on the contents of the letter but said Mr. Begin would answer the message after meeting here with Secretary of State Alexander Haig later in the week.

But Israel army radio reported that the letter urged Mr. Begin to push forward with talks on "Palestinian self-rule" as outlined in the U.S. House of Representatives Appropriations

Camp David accords."

Mr. Lewis recently returned from a trip to Washington for consultations with Mr. Haig who is to meet with Israeli and Egyptian leaders on Palestinian "autonomy". Mr. Haig is due here Thursday from Cairo.

"The purpose of the (Haig) trip is to advance the peace process," Mr. Lewis said after his meeting with Mr. Begin.

Mr. Lewis discussed "mutual security" and other problems with visiting members of a defence committee of the U.S. House of Representatives Appropriations

Committee, according to delegation head Joseph Abbado.

The New York Democrat said he did not think the United States would use foreign aid to pressure Israel. "I don't think we have in the past, and I don't think we will in the future," Mr. Abbado told reporters after the meeting.

Mr. Abbado refrained from criticising Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights. "I can really understand why Israel has taken the action. Israel waited 14 years for Syria to make a move," he said.

Relations were patched up when the two countries signed a strategic cooperation agreement during Mr. Begin's visit here last September. Mr. Haig said the agreement carried with it "mutual obligations of both parties... to consider the vital interests of the other."

But on Dec. 14, without warning, Israel annexed Syria's Golan Heights which it has occupied since the 1967 war. Washington was infuriated and promptly suspended the cooperation agreement.

Mr. Begin hit back with an unprecedented statement to Ambassador Lewis, accusing the United States of treating Israel like a "vassal" and a "banana republic."

Top U.S. officials, including Mr. Haig, have tried to calm the situation, and Mr. Haig is expected to try to avoid any further clashes in Tel Aviv.

The radio, broadcasting a tape of Ali Akbar Rafsanjani's speech delivered in parliament this morning, quoted him as saying "not even the Mafia has stooped so low to remove characters who are loved and respected by the people."

Mohammad Khamenei, a parliament deputy from the northeastern city of Mashad and the head of the parliament's judicial sub-committee, who shot and wounded in the capital yesterday, and two of his guards killed by assailants who fled after the incident.

Mr. Rafsanjani said, "the actions of these hypocrites are like those committed by the Zionists in Palestine, like those of the Mafia, the CIA (U.S. Central Intelligence Agency) and the hellish British intelligence service. They will also try to remove persons most loved by the people."

One of the detainees committed suicide by swallowing cyanide shortly after being taken to prison, they said.

Swedish team to visit Jordan

AMMAN, Jan. 11 (J.T.) — An official Swedish delegation representing the Swedish Telecommunications Administration is due to arrive in Amman tomorrow. The delegation is headed by the Director-General of the Telecommunications Administration Tony Hagstrom. He will be accompanied by the Managing-Director of the Swedish Telecommunications International (SWEDTEL) Janne Blohm, and by Mr. Hans Andersson, member of the board of directors. The delegation will conduct discussions with officials of the Jordan Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) for the purpose of strengthening relations between the two organisations, and to discuss questions of mutual interests in the field of telecommunications.



Klibi accuses U.S. of double standards

BEIRUT, Jan. 11 (A.P.) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi today accused the U.S. administration of applying "double standards" in its foreign policy by imposing sanctions against the Soviet Union over the Polish crisis while refusing to endorse sanctions against Israel for annexing Syria's Golan Heights.

Mr. Klibi spoke at a news conference here at the end of a two-day visit in which he discussed the situation in Lebanon with President Elias Sarkis and other officials.

Referring to the ongoing debate at the United Nations Security Council to endorse the Arab summit conference here at the end of a two-day visit in which he discussed the situation in Lebanon with President Elias Sarkis and other officials.

He added: "We would have expected U.S. policies to be based on these principles because it is unreasonable for the United States to impose sanctions regarding the Polish issue but oppose the imposition of sanctions against Israel over the Golan issue."

"It is impossible that this is the same country which imposed an arms embargo on Turkey in 1974 for violating NATO agreements on arms use, but when Israel used these same American arms for aggressive purposes which are a violation of arms sales agreements between the United States and Israel, this according to U.S. views does not deserve punishment."

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Prince Hassan was seen off at Amman airport by Chief of the Royal Court Ahmad Al Lawzi, Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Ibrahim Al Qattan and several other officials.

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Western diplomats said Mr. Czyrek would almost certainly question Mr. Czyrek about the position of the party under martial law and any dissatisfaction within its leadership to the army takeover.

According to Western reports a number of Communists have left the party in protest against the takeover. The reports also suggest that the party is being further weakened by purges of liberals and hard-liners.

In recent weeks the Soviet Union has made clear its approval of martial law, but it has also indicated concern that the party's position could worsen if it is excluded from a direct role in government for a long time.

Polish sources here said Mr. Czyrek, who arrived yesterday for a two-day visit, would have further talks with Mr. Gromyko this afternoon and would also attend an official banquet.

Mr. Gromyko is expected to

make a speech at the banquet that will probably provide the first statement by a senior Soviet leader on Poland since the army takeover.

Western diplomats said Mr. Gromyko would probably renew Soviet assurances of political and economic support. He would also use the occasion to comment on the United States' imposition of economic sanctions on Poland and the Soviet Union.

President Reagan imposed the sanctions earlier this month because of what he described as Moscow's direct involvement in the military takeover. The Soviet Union has denied any involvement.

Western diplomats said they expected Mr. Gromyko's speech and official reports of Mr. Czyrek's meetings to avoid any statements that could be interpreted in the West as interference.

Finance Minister Yoram Ari

idor, who opposed the increase,

said the payment would torpedo

his plan to cut inflation which reached 103 per cent last year.

Under its peace treaty with Egypt, Israel must evacuate the final third of Sinai, occupied in 1967, by April 25. The area will come under the supervision of a U.S.-sponsored multi-national force.

Failure to persuade 3,000 settlers to leave Sinai peacefully could mean a political crisis for the government of Prime Minister Menachem Begin, who has staked

his personal prestige on the decision of a government arbitration committee.

Last week Mr. Begin persuaded his reluctant cabinet to accept a 4.1-billion shekel (\$262 million)

for the Sinai settlers, an increase of 20 per cent over previous off

ers.

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NATIONAL

Vocational training in Jordan (Part 2)

How to attract Jordanians to the trades

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second of a six-part series in which Dina Matar looks in depth into Jordan's experiment in vocational training. In the first part, published yesterday, the writer examined the shift in social attitudes on vocations, which has come about as a result of the 'fruitful' results of the country's successive economic and social development plans. Today, she highlights the role played by the Vocational Training Corporation in planning and providing training opportunities for Jordanians.

THE VOCATIONAL Training Corporation's (VTC) new five-year plan (1981-1985), aims at training some 8,000 males within its apprenticeship courses, and another 6,000 within its upgrading courses.

It also plans to induce females to join its vocational training programmes, especially tailored to fit the needs of the society and suit its customs. Furthermore, the VTC, which so far has been utilising facilities offered by the Ministry of Education to train its student body, plans to build ten big training complexes in different parts of the country.

Starting from scratch five years ago, the VTC has gone a long way. Over the years, it has been the only agency offering in-plant (on-the-job) training, as

well as upgrading courses for already employed labourers.

To date, the VTC has concentrated its efforts in the industrial sector. But, according to its energetic director, engineer Munther Al Masri, the corporation will soon shift some of its attention to agricultural-type training.

What has set the VTC apart is the flexibility of its on-the-job training programmes, channelled into two main functions: the two-to-three-year full education and training course for dropouts of compulsory levels, and the upgrading programme designed to train employed labourers. Not only does the training programme provide an outlet for the academically weak or economically insecure, but it also helps meet the country's ever-

increasing demands for skilled manpower.

And, although no statistics are available to assess whether people prefer on-the-job or institutional training, it seems that the VTC programmes have met with success. The quick economic returns of the system have lured many to enrol in the VTC programmes, and the training conditions -- trainee undertakes a three-month educational course before joining his post -- have helped apprentices acquire skills in no time.

In a bid to induce more compulsory school dropouts to join VTC programmes, companies providing training to the apprentices pay a nominal JD 25 a month for first-year trainees, JD 30 for second-year trainees and a full salary for third-year students.

The VTC predominantly produces skilled labourers, and until now has no facilities to graduate technicians or professionals. "The time lag element plays a role here, because institutions take a long time to be built, and we need on-the-spot results," Mr. Masri explained.

Industries and companies in Jordan have been quick to realise the importance of initiating on-the-job vocational training. But, the private sector has been quicker in providing training facilities to the VTC apprentices.

The VTC has two main programmes, the long-term apprenticeship course, consisting of two to three years after the compulsory stage, and the flexible upgrading course geared towards improving the skills of employed labourers. Lacking facilities of its own, the VTC has been using some training centres belonging to the Ministry of Education.

Last year, the number of apprentices joining the VTC pro-

gramme were a little over 2,000, while those enrolling in the summer upgrading courses were about 2,500. Local companies have contributed a lot to apprenticeship programmes by providing the training facilities.

Traditionally, industries in the developing countries do not consider manpower training as part of their function. But, in Jordan, there has been a switch in roles. "Our job is to get industries to believe that they have an equally important role in preparing manpower and skilled labour in the country," Mr. Masri told the Jordan Times. "This implies that they have to subsidise training very heavily, since they are the ones to benefit in the end."

Small to big companies have been coordinating with the VTC to take on as many apprentices as possible every year, and the trainees are considered as part of the working force in the company, since they are allocated monthly, though nominal, wages, which increases every year, according to the skills and performance of the trainee. To ensure that everything goes on smoothly, the VTC requires two kinds of documents before training starts. Mr. Masri explained that there is an apprenticeship document signed between the trainee and the employer, the company where he will be training. Another letter of agreement is approved by both the VTC itself and the company or the employer. "We also specify the release time of the apprentice for the three-month theoretical education, since also alongside the practical training the apprentice should take some educational and related theoretical instruction," Mr. Masri said.

The VTC programme has exceeded all expectations, according

to one industrialist in Jordan, but more is needed to be done. In view of the rapid expansion in industry, Jordan is still short of local skilled labour.

Mr. Masri said the VTC will be approaching big industries during the next two years to encourage them to initiate their own training centres attached to their plants. "We will approach seven big industries during our next five-year plan," he said, "because, in the long run, it will reduce the pressure on our already squeezed facilities."

Trainees spend most of their time in the factory, next to their employers, but Jordan has not reached the stage where training is

as permanent a feature as production. "Vocational training is time-consuming and reaping its results would take more than ten years at least," Mr. Masri said.

Twelve kilometres south of Amman, six VTC trainees were busy installing electrical app-

liances in a workshop supervised by the Jordanian Electric Power Company (JEPCO). Nineteen-year-old Ahmad Ali Abu Hawash told the Jordan Times that he chose vocational training because his academic achievements were below standard, and "my social situation forced me to join this programme." Ahmad comes from an 11-member family. "I like the work, and the eight-hour job prepares us for tougher jobs in the future," he said.

Majed Ayed Ismail, 19, said that his academic achievement would have enabled him to continue, not only his secondary schooling, but his university education as well. "But the family conditions and my own interest in the vocational field made me join this rewarding career," Majed added that he would like to continue his education sometime in

the future, "but, I am sure that the money I will get will be much more than the meagre salary I would earn if I were a university graduate."

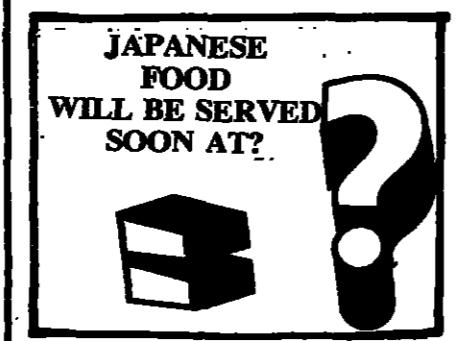
JEPCO has been one of the pioneering Jordanian companies to train VTC apprentices. Last year, 80 students were given on-the-job training in its various workshops around Jordan. "Next year, we plan to increase the number to about 100 apprentices, according to engineer Fathi Saleh head of the training unit at the company. He told the Jordan Times that his company has long formulated a farsighted policy. "By training these apprentices, we are sure we will attract them to work with us in the future, because training local manpower is an investment, much more important than initiating hundreds of projects with no manpower to fill the needs," he said.



Technical drawing class at the Irbid Industrial Secondary School for boys, one of the first Ministry of Education institutes to be utilised by the Vocational Training Corporation.

JORDAN MARKETPLACE

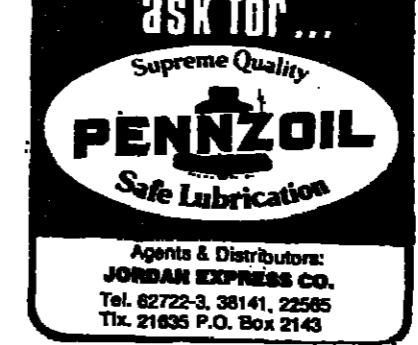
RESTAURANTS & BARS



HOTELS



TRANSPORTATION



MISCELLANEOUS



NATIONAL



The new Ministry of Tourism calendar begins the year with Princess Fahrelnissa Zaid's 'Derwishes'...

Jordanian artists' work graces Ministry of Tourism calendar

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities is sending out as gifts, all over Jordan and the world, its first very own calendar, for 1982. The calendar's 12 large (68-by-48-centimetre) glossy, well-printed pages of photographs do not depict, as one might have predicted, scenes of Petra, Jerash and Aqaba—instead, with much more originality, the ministry has chosen to show the work of Jordanian artists.

"We are not the department which is responsible for the country's artists," Assistant Director General of Tourism Rafiq Lahham told the Jordan Times, "but we have always encouraged them—as we did, for example, with the Spring National Festival held in Aqaba last April."

"So, from this point of view, we collected together photographs of some of the local artists' paintings, ceramics and sculpture, in order to show our art movement to people all over the world."

The original idea for the calendar came from Director General of Tourism Michael Hamarneh. A selection committee picked paintings to illustrate each month of the year, and by using six small pictures each for November and December, they managed to include work from 22 of the country's artists.

Princess Fahrelnissa Zaid's "Derwishes" begin the year with their wide, white, whirling skirts and their tall brown hats, which perch over calm and peaceful faces. Next is the distinctive textured style of Princess Wijdan Ali, who has captured the dome and minarets of a mosque in shimmering reds against a dark blue and purple sky.

March, April and May are represented by Jordan's three pioneer artists—Rafiq Lahham, Mohanna Durr and Ahmad Nawash—each in his own very individual, original—but now familiar to Jordan's art lovers—style. The latest, softly coloured, gridded, abstract style of Yaser Duwaik starts the summer appropriately, with its hints of long stretches of empty desert over which large (but not yet fierce) sun rises.

In styles as various as the colours they use, representing all the aspects of Jordanian life, from its bedouins to its handicrafts—as well as their own personal visions—the paintings of Saleh Abu Shindi, Afaf Arasfat, Samia Zaro, Hafiz Khassis, Tawfiq Sayed, Is'ak Nahle, Alf Ghoul, Fouad Mimi, Ibrahim Najjar, Abdul Ra'uf Shamoun, Diana Shamounki, Shibli Haddadene and Zaki Shaqfeh fill the rest of the calendar, along with photographs of both the sculptural work of Mohammad Sayed and Abdul Rahim Masi and the wonderful ceramic pieces of Mahmoud Taha.

"We cannot include all of our artists," said Mr. Lahham, "but those who are not represented this year will find a place in the calendar for 1983."

Mr. Lahham designed the calendar, which is written in five languages—Arabic, English, French, Italian and German. The cover bears the Jordanian royal crest, so that it can be used and hung in all the different ministries. The excellent photograph of His Majesty King Hussein and Her Majesty Queen Noor, which precedes the calendar proper, has "already been framed" by some people, Mr. Lahham said.

The photographs of the art work were made by the department's own photographer, Mr. Sa'id Matar, although some of the artists provided the department with slides of their own.

With some financial assistance from the Jordan Express Tourist Transport (JETT) bus company, the ministry has printed 15,000 copies of the calendar, a substantial portion of which have already been distributed to all the overseas Jordanian embassies and offices of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, as well as to many travel agencies, hotels and restaurants in Europe, America and the Arab World...

In Jordan itself, many individuals have received their own copies, while many more calendars have been sent to all the foreign embassies in Amman, and the armed forces. The Ministry of Education is distributing copies to all its schools.



and ends it with the work of six Jordanian artists.

NCC considers foreign loans, hears replies to proposals

AMMAN, Jan. 11 (Petra) — The National Consultative Council (NCC) met today under Speaker Ahmad Al Tarawneh, in the presence of Prime Minister Mudar Badran and cabinet ministers. The NCC approved several draft laws and heard the government's answers to the inquiries and proposals of NCC members.

The NCC referred to its financial committee the draft law ratifying the loan agreement for the fourth electric power project, between Jordan and the World Bank; the second loan agreement for the Amman water project, between the Saudi Development Fund and Jordan.

Fund and Jordan; a draft law to ratify an amendment to the loan agreement for the Amman water and sewerage project, between the Saudi Development Fund and Jordan; and a draft law ratifying a loan agreement for the industrial port in Aqaba, between the Saudi Development Fund and Jordan.

The NCC also heard the government's answers to proposals on the expansion of roads leading from Irbid to the Koura, Taybal and Kaf Yuba areas. It also heard government answers to other proposals. These included the question of transferring the telephones of subscribers from one place to another; new telephone numbers for new tenants, and greater attention to Islamic architectural traditions in new buildings.

The NCC approved the decisions of the financial committee regarding the ratification of several loan agreements. These included an agreement between Iraq and Jordan; a loan for the irrigation of Ghor Al Safi from the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED), and a loan for the Amman irrigation project, also from KFAED.

On eve of embassy opening

Canadian envoy praises ties with Jordan

By Lima Nabil
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, Jan. 11 — Canada's non-resident Ambassador to Jordan Theodore Arcand yesterday expressed his admiration and appreciation of Jordan's economic strength and social prestige. He said His Majesty King Hussein's visit to Canada last November was welcomed on both the official and the popular levels, and had a great positive impact on the relations between the two countries.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Arcand said that political talks between the officials of the two countries had led to agreement to raise the level of diplomatic representation. The Ottawa government has decided to open an embassy in Amman, and this will be done soon, he said.

Mr. Arcand said: "We wish to strengthen relations between the two countries on all levels, and we have taken the first step by organising an exhibition of the work of six Canadian photographers."

Many viewers have already attended the exhibition, which Her Majesty Queen Noor opened. The exhibition, organised in cooperation with the Culture and Arts Department, will remain open for one week at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel so that the largest number of photography fans can see the Canadian work. It includes 64 photographs, representing various aspects of the social life and natural environment in Canada, the ambassador said.

The exhibition will later travel to Lebanon and Syria, Ambassador Arcand said.

Mr. Arcand said that the Canadian government aspires to strengthen its relations with Jordan in many areas. "While we participate in CARE (Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere) projects—in which Canadians constitute 60 per cent of the employees—we are participating in other projects such as the Holy Land Institute for the Deaf in Salt," he said. He mentioned other charitable and social services rendered by Canadian organisations in Ma'an for the bedouins, and in Mafraq, Al Rajif and Al Husseiniyah.

Mr. Arcand said he regretted that the Canadian people do not know much about Jordan. "Therefore, I would like to ask the Jordanian officials, particularly those of the Department of Culture and Arts and the Antiquities Department, to send some antiquity pieces, paintings and Jordanian artists to Canada, so that the Canadian people could get acquainted with Jordan's heritage and its antiquities."

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ient and modern cultures," Ambassador Arcand said.

Mr. Arcand praised the strong ties between the University of Jordan and Canadian universities. He said Canadian universities have given books to the University of Jordan library, and pointed out that there are several Canadian professors at the University of Jordan, and a number of Jordanian graduate students in Canada.

Asked about the prospects of greater economic and trade cooperation between Jordan and Canada, Mr. Arcand said "we hope to expand in this field, since the Jordanian market is favourably accepting Canadian products."

Asked about the prospects of

strengthening Jordanian-Canadian relations, the ambassador said that a Canadian film week in Amman was planned. It will begin on Jan. 16 at the Hay Arts Centre, he said.

Asked about the prospects of greater economic and trade cooperation between Jordan and Canada, Mr. Arcand said "we hope to expand in this field, since the Jordanian market is favourably accepting Canadian products."

Public questioned on needs for Abu Nusair apartments

AMMAN, Jan. 11 (J.T.) — The Housing Corporation has prepared a questionnaire for distribution to the public within the next few days, to obtain detailed information related to apartments in the Abu Nusair housing project now under construction.

The questionnaire is intended both to acquaint people with the project's location, rent and price levels and conditions for ownership; and to gather information on the financial and social conditions of those seeking housing. A family's monthly income and number of members are among the most important questions.

After the Housing Corporation receives the filled questionnaires, it will study them in preparation for decisions on who may get apartments. The corporation will take into consideration in its decisions the numbers of family members compared to apartments' floor areas.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Police mark Prophet's birthday

AMMAN, Jan. 11 (Petra) — The Public Security Directorate celebrated the Prophet Mohammad's birthday today. A representative of the directorate, the Awqaf Ministry under-secretary, and others made speeches praising this glorious occasion and highlighting the Prophet's great qualities, as well as the lessons which should be learned from this anniversary. Public Security Director Lt. Gen. Mohammad Idris and senior and non-commissioned officers attended the ceremony.

French, Jordanian mappers meet

AMMAN, Jan. 11 (Petra) — Jordanian National Geographic Centre Director General Col. Ra'fat Al Majali had talks today with a French delegation representing the French group for cartography and the French geographical centre on ways to strengthen relations between the two in survey sciences. The talks also dealt with the agreement concluded between the centre and the French group in 1975 stemming from a technical and cultural cooperation, stipulating that the French group should render technical and training expertise to the centre survey engineering. The French delegation arrived in Amman yesterday for a four-day visit to Jordan.

Jurists' terms extended

AMMAN, Jan. 11 (J.T.) — The cabinet has agreed to extend by one year the government service of Court of Cassation Judge Fawwaz Al Rousan, Jerusalem Court of Appeals Judge Daoud Abu Ghazaleh, Director of Public Prosecution Sa'id Al Dura, Court of Cassation Judge Salih Isheidat, Court of Cassation Judge Nashi' Azar, Cassation Court Judge Mohammad Al Nasar, Cassation Court Judge Ibrahim Hijazin and Judge Wadih Salah.

Idris sees Iraqi ambassador

AMMAN, Jan. 11 (Petra) — Public Security Director General Lt. Gen. Mohammad Idris received at his office today Iraqi Ambassador in Amman Ibrahim Shuja' Sultan. During the meeting, they discussed scopes of cooperation in public security between the two countries.

European flour for refugees

AMMAN, Jan. 11 (Petra) — The regional office of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) in Amman announced today that a shipment of 906 tonnes of flour arrived recently in Aqaba Port as part of the contributions of the European Economic Community to assist Palestinian refugees.

Crescent chief due in Bulgaria

AMMAN, Jan. 11 (Petra) — Jordanian National Red Crescent Society President Ahmad Abu Qoura will visit Bulgaria at the end of March to attend the annual meeting of the Bulgarian Red Cross Society.

Meanwhile, Housing Bank Mafraq Branch Manager Sultan Al Zorbi said that the bank financed the building of 110 housing units last year. He added that the bank gave JD 396,700 in loans for this purpose.



Her Majesty Queen Noor presents a diploma to a graduate at the Jordan School of Nursing Monday (Petra photo)

Nursing school graduates 73

By Samira Kawar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, Jan. 11 — A new class of 73 nurses and midwives graduated from the Jordan School of Nursing today. As an audience of 500 parents, friends, graduate nurses and teachers looked on, Her Majesty Queen Noor handed out diplomas to the college's 27th class of midwives, its 26th group of nursing graduates and the fourth class of nurses specialising in midwifery.

Minister of Health Zuhair Malhas, in an opening address at the ceremony, evaluated the level which nursing services in Jordan have attained. Due to increased health awareness in official and public circles, he said, many health services in Jordan have reached very high standards, while others could be described as satisfactory.

Although both the status and standard of the nursing profession in Jordan have risen significantly over the past several years, Dr. Malhas pointed out that the Ministry of Health's first priority is to offer medical services to all Jordanian citizens. Hence, he said, the ministry is constantly working to provide highly qualified Jordanian nurses. "If the nursing profession has not gained the respect that it deserves from society, it is everyone's fault," he asserted.

He cited famous women of early Islamic days who had nobly nursed fighters during battles, and had gained honour and veneration for their work. "Today, in the 15th Islamic century, it would behoove us to adopt the attitude of respect that nurses enjoyed in the early days of Islam," Dr. Malhas said.

He urged more parents to encourage their daughters to take up nursing.

Besides offering training facilities to its own students, the college also offers training in midwifery to nursing students from the Royal Medical Services, the Jordan University Hospital and private hospitals such as the Islamic hospital.

Miss Qumq added that several new ideas were being studied, and considered for implementation at the college. One such idea is changing the education system to one of semesters instead of years, she said. Another is to hold training courses to improve the qualifications of teachers of nursing.

The college is also working to establish official recognition of its nursing diploma as academically equivalent to the nursing B.Sc. degree offered by the University of Jordan, and to increase the number of scholarships for nurses wishing to specialise abroad in specific fields.

Queen Noor then addressed the graduates in Arabic. She congratulated the graduates, and said that she was conveying to them the greetings of His Majesty King Hussein as they entered their sacred profession. She said she hoped that they would always be an example of dedicated service, and wished them success.

The Queen then handed out the diplomas, bestowing prizes on several outstanding students.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibitions

* The Canadian Photography Exhibition, at the Jordan International Hotel.

* Architect and Computer (A Man - Machine - System), an exhibition by the Goethe Institute with the Engineers Association.

* Exhibition of Islamic literature at the Shar'a Institute Hall in Jabal Luweibeh.

Choir singing

* The YWCA Choir invites all interested singers to its weekly rehearsal at the YWCA, Third Circle, Jabal Amman, at 8 p.m.

New Year Concert

* The British Council presents Mr. John Clegg, a distinguished British pianist (in aid of St. John Ophthalmic Hospital, Jerusalem), at 7 p.m. Tickets to reception and concert JD 5.

TWO DELUXE APARTMENTS FOR RENT

1. First floor

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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Retreading

THE VISIT to Egypt and Israel later this week of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig is being played up as a demonstration of the top-level American commitment to inject fresh blood into the stalled Camp David "autonomy" negotiations for Palestinians in the occupied areas. That is a generous but hallucinogenic manner of looking at the Haig visit. We see it more as the mediagenic last ditch effort by baffled old men to retread a tire that has been flat since the moment it was produced. Mr. Haig is a free man, and, like all free men, he has the right to dream, to make believe, to live in a world of illusions and fantasies, and, as he is doing this week, to travel around that world in a jet airplane fuelling the illusionary fires with the presence and prestige of his personality and his office. That is his right as a free man.

If his own people do not have the desire to question why the highest foreign policy official of the United States is involved so deeply in an exercise that merits the attention of the psychedelic industry more than it does the attention of people around the world who are sincerely interested in Arab-Israeli reconciliation and peace — why should Mr. Haig not get on his plane and fly away into a never-never world based on diplomatic make-believe? It is good politics in America to look like a peace-maker and to act like one, too, so why shouldn't Mr. Haig do what he is doing?

Answer: He should not do what he is doing because, for one thing, he is wasting the American taxpayers' money by consuming expensive jet fuel for fairytale trips that are heavy on show and poor on substance. Peace-making is one thing. Retreading flat tires is another. Cannot Mr. Haig spare us the charade and save his people's tax money, just once?

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

A call from the heart

AL RA'I: In his statement to the Kuwaiti Al Anbaa newspaper, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan made a concise but exact summary of the current Arab situation with all the features of weakness and disunity on the one hand and the factors of strength and unity on the other.

Prince Hassan is of the opinion that "the elements of weakness and strength depend on the Arabs themselves to a great extent". This means that the painful Arab situation is the making of the Arabs' own hands and that they can reverse it if they opt for the right path and use their massive potentials.

The Arabs lack neither the human nor the material resources. There is nothing that can prevent them from achieving the strength which can enable them to regain their rights and claim their rightful share of political, economic and military strength. The Arabs must understand that regrettably there seems no place in this world except for the logic of strength. The Arabs are weak today because of the absence of their united will and collective strategy.

Prince Hassan called on the Arab states to establish a united and clear political stand when they meet during the forthcoming Fez Arab summit conference which must measure up to its responsibilities by adopting important resolutions to ease the worries and heal the malady from which the Arab Body suffers.

This is sound reason and it is an honest call issued by a responsible Arab citizen to urge the Arabs to take the only way that can lead this nation to safety and enable it to practice its will, regain its rights and assume its proper status among the people of the world.

We urge all the faithful sons of this nation to listen to this call. We call on them to respond to this call before it is too late.

Tenacity or belligerence

AL DUSTOUR: Israeli Interior Minister Yosef Burg yesterday said that Israel had no intention of discussing new ideas with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig who will begin a tour of Egypt and Israel today. The Israeli minister, who is Israel's chief negotiator on autonomy, stressed Israel's refusal to approve giving Jerusalem citizens the right to vote on the proposed autonomy elections.

It is clear that the Israeli minister aims at obstructing the U.S. Secretary of State's mission not only in Israel but also in Egypt where he will stop first.

This Israeli stand was not beyond our expectations. The Israeli stand was nothing new for those who observe Israel's intransigence and the stand it adopted since Sadat fell in its trap. This Israeli stand was the main reason behind the failure of autonomy talks. It also was one of the reasons behind the failure of Sadat's policy. It is strange to see the United States insist on proceeding with its attempt to impose the Camp David agreements and defy the Arab stand on these agreements which resulted in isolating Egypt from the Arab World and placing it under the humiliation of Israeli intransigence.

These attempts to support the Camp David agreements will only give the aggressor the chance to become more intransigent and this will surely have negative results on the Arab-U.S. relations.

The only alternative that the Arabs would accept is the return to the United Nations Security Council resolutions. All the attempts made outside the United Nations gave the aggressor the excuse to proceed with its aggression and practices which were condemned by the world, including the United States. Hence the statements voiced by Burg should make everyone understand that following the Camp David path will only result in wasted efforts.

Tass accuses Europe of interventionism

By Richard Balmforth

After initial optimism, the Soviet Union appears to have given up hopes of preventing the military crack-down in Poland from damaging its relations with Western Europe, Western diplomats say.

The clearest signal of Moscow's disappointment came in a commentary by the official news agency TASS, issued last night and published prominently today, that accused the European Common Market countries of interfering in Poland's affairs.

Though Moscow has traded

charges freely with Washington since martial law was declared in Poland on Dec. 13, it has until now ignored Western European criticism of events there.

It has maintained that the issue was a domestic matter for Poles in which the Soviet Union played no part.

And without disguising its satisfaction at decisive action which it saw as long overdue, the Kremlin rejected Washington's charges that it had had foreknowledge of the crack-down.

The Soviet media have den-

ounced U.S. sanctions against Moscow and Poland and predicted they will end in failure, but analysts say that Washington's reprisals were no worse than Moscow expected.

The Kremlin, however, appears to have been expecting a very different stand from Western Europe, Western diplomats say.

Diplomats say Moscow clearly hoped the European Economic Community (EEC) would divorce itself from the U.S. reprisals, creating a rift in the Western camp over Poland.

But EEC ministers meeting in Brussels last Monday adopted a dual stand which clearly fell well short of Kremlin hopes of a row between the U.S. and its allies.

While the ministers took no concrete action, they pledged to refrain from undercutting the U.S. sanctions, condemned military repression in Poland and threatened the Kremlin with economic reprisals if it intervened.

The TASS commentary clearly sanctioned at a high level, said the EEC ministers had had the audacity to express disapproval of Polish events and to tell the Polish

authorities how to handle their own affairs.

TASS went on: "If the unasked 'advice' is cleared of its hypocritical cover, its essence amounts to demands for freedom of action for those who have tried in every way to plunge Poland in economic collapse and chaos and pursued, with the support of certain circles in the West, a line of undermining the Polish socialist state."

TASS accused the EEC countries of unceremonious interference in Poland's affairs and said their words echoed gross attacks by the U.S.

It charged that they were violating the Helsinki agreements on international conduct, saying their final communiqué contained barely-veiled threats and warnings to Poland and its allies.

But referring to the Europeans' decision not to impose direct sanctions, TASS said: "This seems to reflect widespread understanding in Western Europe that preservation of cooperation, including economic, with socialist states is important for West European countries' own long-term

interests."

This phrase indicated Moscow had little fear of effective trade sanctions being applied by Europe.

But the harsh tone of the TASS commentary generally contrasted with earlier Soviet comment that suggested the West Europeans would reject any association with the American action.

On the eve of the EEC meeting, a Soviet television commentator said the Western allies assessed the U.S. measures as crude interference, and were trying to avoid confrontation with the East bloc in the interests of detente.

Western business and diplomats believe that in spite of the EEC's pledge not to undercut U.S. sanctions, West European governments may find it difficult to block business deals effectively.

But the diplomat said Moscow had probably been counting on greater disarray in the ranks of the Western allies, similar to that over U.S. sanctions after Moscow's military intervention in Afghanistan in 1980.

They believe that Moscow had been counting on a tough line by

Bonn against the American position.

It will clearly be disappointed that West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt has apparently moved closer to Washington on key aspects of the Polish crisis.

A joint statement by Mr. Schmidt and President Reagan after talks in Washington yesterday indicated that Bonn now agrees with the U.S. view that the Soviet Union is responsible for events in Poland.

Until recently, Moscow also turned a blind eye to the French stand on the Polish crisis. But it broke its silence last Monday, charging Paris with impudent interference in Poland.

The Soviet government newspaper Izvestia accused officials in President Francois Mitterrand's government of dictating what should be done in Warsaw as if Poland was a French department (province).

Mr. Mitterrand has condemned the military crack-down, which he said had meant the loss of public, collective and individual liberties.

-- Reuter

Retired Soviet Style

(Reuter) — The moon-face and the pudgy figure of the old man was instantly recognisable to the veteran Kremlin watcher who passed him on the banks of the River Moscow not long ago.

Georgy Malenkov, once heir to dictator Josef Stalin, turned 80 today in the obscurity that has enwrapped him since he was ousted from power by Nikita Khrushchev 25 years ago.

With former prime minister and foreign minister Vyacheslav Molotov and one-time heavy industry boss Lazar Kaganovich Mr. Malenkov is one of the tiny band of Stalin's lieutenants who were outmanoeuvred by Khrushchev in a power struggle but who finally outlived him.

Mr. Molotov, now 91 but said to be remarkably sprightly for his age, lives an apparently easy life not far from the Kremlin.

Mr. Kaganovich, credited with being the brains behind several prestige building projects in the 1930s, is occasionally seen on warm summer evenings playing dominoes with neighbours outside his Moscow apartment. He is now 88.

But though Mr. Malenkov and his one-time associates enjoy a comfortable retirement they are nonetheless official "non-persons" -- their contribution to Soviet history erased from public record.

Moscow takes seriously the 100th birthdays of public figures, past and present, with eulogies in the state-run press. But as with Mr. Molotov's 90th birthday two years ago there was no official mention of Mr. Malenkov's birthday today.

Mr. Malenkov, Mr. Molotov and Mr. Kaganovich are all believed to enjoy comfortable government pensions, far above the monthly average, of about 400 roubles (\$564).

Mr. Malenkov lives near the Soviet defence ministry opposite Moscow's Gorky Park, but he could have ended his days in remote Kazakhstan where Khrushchev had him banished in 1957.

As a young man Mr. Malenkov rose quickly through Communist Party ranks to become a full member of the ruling politburo under Stalin by the age of 48.

He was tipped the likeliest contender to succeed Stalin when the dictator died in March 1953. He read the main funeral oration when Stalin was buried in Moscow's Red Square.

Appointed Prime Minister, he was clearly a strong contender for ultimate Kremlin power.

But his apparent reluctance to agree with Khrushchev's attacks on Stalinism cost him dearly.

Khrushchev dubbed Mr. Malenkov, Mr. Molotov and Mr. Kaganovich the "anti-party group" and ousted them from the leadership.

One memoirist who was once bear-hugged by him later described him as having "A fat, round face, into which my nose sank as if into a half inflated balloon."

Many middle-aged Russians remember him as the man who scrapped Stalin's much-hated system of taxing the collective farmer on produce from his private plot.

To younger people his name is virtually unknown. One Russian recently told a Western correspondent: "If I mentioned Malenkov's name to my son he would think I was talking about a footballer."

Of the trio, it is Mr. Molotov who is best remembered outside Russia though inside the Soviet Union he is still a "yesterday's man."

An astute man with steel pince-nez spectacles, he represented Stalin's Russia during the tense cold war period after World War II and many years before that.

After dismissing him, Khrushchev sent him into virtual exile for three years as Soviet ambassador to Mongolia.

After a brief return to Moscow to occupy a minor role on the international scene Molotov retired into private life.

A few years ago he said he spent much of his time writing, but his memoirs have never been published.

Mr. Kaganovich, a Ukrainian Jew, is best remembered by older Russians as the man largely responsible for building the Moscow metro (underground railway) in the mid-1930s.

But he is also said to have played a central role in carrying out purges ordered by Stalin in his native Ukraine.

The Moscow metro which had been named after him was officially renamed when Khrushchev sacked him as first deputy prime minister.

He was banished to run cement works in the Urals but like his one-time associates he later slipped quietly back to Moscow.

-- Reuter

Is Brit. two-party system over?

By Barry May

After a year in which British politics was turned upside down with ideological rifts, revolts and a new pretender, battle lines will be drawn in 1982 for an election that could see the established parties re-elected.

For the ruling Conservative party, 1981 was the year when rebels in the cabinet and parliament loudly voiced fears of grave electoral consequences from the government's tough economic policies.

Now, with the Social Democrats emerging as a powerful new political force, the Liberal-SDP alliance is given a real chance in public opinion polls of forming the next British government.

Quite apart from their own internal problem of ideology and philosophy, the prospect of an upstart newcomer seizing the reins of power has shaken the two major parties.

However, her concentration on fighting inflation, at a peak of 21.8 per cent in May 1980, has met with only limited success.

Inflation was down to 15.3 per cent a year ago and has been trimmed to 12 per cent in the last few months. But it has not reached the government's target of 10 per cent by the end of 1981.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer (finance minister), says the fall will be slower in 1982 and inflation might even increase because of the declining value of sterling.

With manufacturing output up, economists generally support the optimistic predictions of Mrs. Thatcher and her treasury ministers of brighter economic prospects.

The system was, in effect, a

pendulum that swung power back and forth between Labour and Conservatives during general elections to the exclusion of all other contenders.

Britain's traditional first-past-the-post or winner-take-all electoral system — the only such system in the 10 nation European community — ensured that the Liberals, out of government for more than 50 years, remained in third place.

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Mrs. Thatcher says 1982 could

be a year of economy recovery, declaring: "I think we're over the worst".

Political sources say the challenge for Mrs. Thatcher in 1982 is to produce enough evidence of recovery from the worst recession in the memory of most Britons to silence her Conservative critics and quash the dissent in the party.

The problems facing Labour's leader Michael Foot are more daunting.

Electoral leader in November 1980 at the age of 67, he has presided over a year of bitter feuding that spawned the Social Democrats and depleted Labour's parliamentary ranks by one-tenth.

The left-versus-right struggle for power sidetracked Labour from its role as an alternative to the Conservative government.

The dissension sent Labour's public standing plummeting when it should have taken advantage of an unpopular government.

At Mr. Foot's insistence, the Labour party

ECONOMY

Soviet demand for farm products prompts EEC to increase prices

BRUSSELS, Jan. 11 (R) — West European farmers can thank Moscow if they get a hefty increase in the prices paid for their crops this year.

The European Economic Community (EEC) commission is expected this week to propose price rises of up to nine per cent for the community's eight million farmers, EEC sources said.

After the usual months of haggling between governments of the 10 member states of the EEC, even that is likely to turn into a double-figure increase, the largest for several years, the sources said.

But what is good news for farmers is bad news for consumers. The sources said shop prices of staples like bread, milk, butter and meat would rise by about the same figure.

The community can afford to pay the farmers because of a sharp fall in the amount of cash it has to dispense to dispose of its huge farm surpluses, the sources said.

For that, the farmers owe a great deal to Moscow. The drop in last year's Soviet grain harvest — estimated at 175 million tonnes compared to a target of 240 million — has pushed up world prices for cereals and feedgrains of which the community is a major producer.

Heavy Soviet purchases of butter and dairy products from the West has given a strong boost to the world market in those products, allowing the community to get rid of its notorious butter mountains and milk lakes.

Because much of the EEC's

huge farm budget goes to bridge the gap between high internal prices and lower levels outside, the buoyancy of the world market resulting from heavy Soviet buying has saved the community hundreds of millions of dollars.

All-in-all, the EEC commission spent nearly \$1.5 billion less on agriculture than it expected to last year, EEC sources said.

Fears that the farm budget would run out of money have vanished as its percentage of total EEC spending dropped to around 60 per cent from levels close to 70 per cent in previous years, they said.

"No-one can say the com-

munity can't afford a hefty price increase this year and for that we are thanking Russian inefficiency," said a member of the powerful farm lobby in Brussels.

The saving, ironically, has dismayed countries like Britain which fought for years to reduce the weight of agricultural subsidies in the EEC budget.

With spending falling of its own accord, countries like France and Italy have been able to argue that the fundamental overhaul of farm outlays sought by Britain was unnecessary, the sources said.

Leaders and ministers of the 10 have been locked in bitter wrangling for months on agricultural

reform, with little evidence of progress.

Foreign ministers from the 10 are due to meet on Thursday, just days before the commission brings out its price package, in a fresh attempt to agree on how to cut dairy spending. Few observers expect any real breakthrough.

Farmers, meanwhile, will not have it all their own way.

There is little chance they will get the full 16 per cent price rise they say is necessary to compensate for a drastic fall in incomes, and the EEC commission plans to impose new taxes on producers who add to the community's surpluses.

OPEC states reported unable to hold new benchmark price

LONDON, Jan. 11 (R) — A weak oil market is putting new pressure on the OPEC exporters and they might find it difficult to hold their new benchmark price of \$34 a barrel, the Petroleum Intelligence Weekly (PIW) said today.

The New York newsletter, also distributed in London, said most oil from OPEC — the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries — was being quoted below official prices in the spot market, which deals in oil not sold under long-term contract.

"Every indicator points to further weakness in coming months. This is emboldening refiners to give up unfavourable long-term contracts and putting new pressure on producing nations. It ultimately could crack OPEC's \$34 price front," the PIW said.

But the weekly added that exporters were more likely to make price cuts by altering their "differentials" — in effect, premiums or discounts around the \$34 rate for benchmark Saudi light crude, made for quality and marketability.

It said Saudi Arabian light was "the lone bastion", in that it was selling spot at its official price — "and this fact may prove crucial to preserving a semblance of pricing order around a \$34 per barrel base."

The PIW said OPEC's total output slumped in November to 20.5 million barrels daily, 420,000 barrels down on October. OPEC was producing nearly 31 million barrels a day in 1979 before high prices and recession sent oil demand reeling and created a glut.

The newsletter listed Kuwait, Iran and Algeria among countries finding it difficult to attract buyers.

In another report, the PIW said it looked increasingly probable that the United States would double its modest imports of Mexican natural gas to 600 million cubic feet (17 million cubic metres) a day by late this year or early 1983.

The weekly said potential buyers and U.S. officials appeared fairly confident a deal on the increased deliveries could be worked out.

Mexico is anxious to boost export and reduce wasteful flaring of gas which it produces in association with oil.

Chase predicts brighter outlook for world economy

By David Smyth

NEW YORK — With a new year starting, banks, economists and assorted futurologists are hurrying out with their economic predictions for 1982.

But many investors will be taking the predictions cautiously. In some cases, predictions by various organisations contradict each other. In others, the forecasters themselves urge caution.

As Morgan Guaranty Trust Co., one of America's largest banks, admitted drily at the end of 1981, "the ability of economists to divine the future has not been impressive in the past year."

Morgan, based in New York, says in its survey for 1982 that the U.S. dollar should drop two to three per cent against other currencies this year, the Japanese yen should rise fairly briskly to around 195-205 yen per dollar, the German mark should appreciate moderately, and the British pound should hold steady.

Another big New York bank, Chase Manhattan, predicts that 1982 will be a much better year for the world economy than 1981.

Real economic output in the industrialised world is likely to increase by about 2.5 per cent this year — well above the one per cent growth achieved last year, Chase Manhattan Bank estimates.

"World trade volume, flat last year, will grow by about two per cent," according to Chase, the third largest U.S. commercial

bank.

"Inflation rates will fall in virtually all" — industrialised countries, the bank adds.

Outlook for OPEC

Meanwhile, 1981 was not the best of years for the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and the outlook for OPEC is even less rosy in 1982, Chase remarks.

"Sluggish world demand for OPEC oil resulted in smaller price rises and an output reduction of 15 per cent in 1981. The OPEC surplus on current account narrowed to an estimated \$65 billion in 1981 from \$108 billion in 1980. Continued weak demand for OPEC oil, coupled with the freeze on oil prices, will shrink the OPEC surplus further to no more than \$40 billion in 1982."

In its biweekly publication International Finance, Chase Manhattan said the United States is entering the new year amidst a sharp recession. In Europe the first signs of an upturn are already apparent. By midsummer, recovery should be well under way in most of the industrialised countries, with growth in the U.S. outpacing Europe, and possibly

Iran's position is weaker, but recent oil export increases have helped."

Chase Manhattan says "The lack of agreement over gas export prices and soft oil demand have weakened Algeria's external position. Syria's balance of payments is similarly weak, but the Jor-

danian economy has continued to prosper, thanks to aid grants and remittances.

In Africa and the Middle East, says Chase, "Saudi Arabia's oil revenues will fall noticeably this year but its outlays for development and national defence will accelerate."

"Despite lower petroleum earnings, government spending will also remain buoyant in the United Arab Emirates and Oman. In Kuwait and Qatar, however, public sector outlays will be restrained in 1982."

"Tunisia's prospects are brightened by two oil finds and more direct investment by Arab oil exporters."

"Despite the expected growth of phosphate exports, Morocco's economy will be hurt in 1982 by a prolonged drought that will boost food imports and expand the trade deficit."

"Most African economies, however, face another year of continued heavy dependence on concessional aid, with the International Monetary Fund's supervisory role widened."

"Meat: Higher poultry consumption and the weakness of the developed economies will discourage demand for beef and pork."

"Sugar: The 1981-82 harvest will set a record, suggesting little if any price recovery in 1982."

"Coffee: Consumption will fall short of this year's bumper crop and prices will remain weak."

"Cocoa: Prices will be weak in view of a fifth consecutive surplus season."

Commodities

Chase's '82 commodities predictions:

Aluminum: A slow recovery in light of record stocks and perhaps the worst recession the industry has ever known.

Nickel: In the doldrums despite a prolonged drought that will boost food imports and expand the trade deficit."

Copper: Stocks abnormally low and there is some chance of a sharp rise in prices should eco-

nomic conditions show unexpected vigor.

Tin: Prices likely to remain under downward pressure given the prospect of continued sales from U.S. government stockpiles in an already thin market.

Gold: Now more in line with supply and demand fundamentals than early last year.

Silver: Oversupply likely to keep prices near current low levels.

Platinum: No strong price rebound likely as long as the U.S. auto industry remains depressed.

Grain: World production of wheat, rice and coarse grains to set new records while consumption will rise more modestly, thus pressuring prices downward.

Meat: Higher poultry consumption and the weakness of the developed economies will discourage demand for beef and pork."

Sugar: The 1981-82 harvest will set a record, suggesting little if any price recovery in 1982."

Coffee: Consumption will fall short of this year's bumper crop and prices will remain weak."

Cocoa: Prices will be weak in view of a fifth consecutive surplus season."

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON, Jan. 11 (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at the midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets today.

One sterling	1.8998/08	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1875/78	Canadian dollars
	2.2710/20	West German marks
	2.4890/10	Dutch guilders
	1.8415/30	Swiss francs
	38.60/65	Belgian francs
	5.7600/20	French francs
	1214.00/1215.00	Italian lire
	222.80/90	Japanese yen
	5.5770/85	Swedish crowns
	5.8335/50	Norwegian crowns
	7.4075/95	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	390.50/391.00	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON, Jan. 11 (R) — Banks featured in an otherwise quietly mixed market following a report the monopolies commission had rejected both bids for the Royal Bank of Scotland, dealers said.

The Royal Bank ended 51p lower at 142 while suitors Hong Kong Shanghai and Standard Chartered were up 9p and 18p respectively. The major clearers were as much as 8p down, as in Natwest, while Bank of Scotland, itself the centre of bid speculation recently, was 43p lower at 479.

Elsewhere, the market was mixed in dull trading, with the F.T. index at 1500 down 1.7 at 529.7, the level held since midday.

Insurers were weak, with composites down 5p or 6p because of the likely impact of increased claims caused by bad weather, dealers said.

P and O, the subject of bid speculation recently, ended another active session 1p higher at 134 after 128. Thorn was unchanged at 445 after 450 ahead of Thursday's interim results, with dealers noting increasing speculation that a rights issue will accompany the figures. GEC, Lucas and Blue Circle were 2p or 3p higher but B.P. Beecham and Plessey dipped a penny or two.

Government bonds were down around 1/4 point in slow trade while gold shares were off as much as three dollars, reflecting the fall in the bullion price.

Associated Press

DEPARTURES

3:00	Cairo
4:00	Cairo
6:45	Beirut
7:00	Agaba
7:40	Damascus, Paris (AF)
7:45	Tripoli
8:30	London (KLM)
8:40	Beirut, Amsterdam (KLM)
9:00	Cairo (EA)
9:25	Beirut (MEA)
10:00	Frankfurt
10:30	Rome
11:30	Cairo
12:00	Copenhagen
12:05	Riyadh (SV)
12:30	Cairo
16:30	Kuwait (KAC)
18:30	Damascus
18:30	Cairo (EA)
18:45	Abu Dhabi
19:00	Kuwait
19:15	Damascus
20:15	Bangkok
20:30	Dubai, Muscat
21:15	Bangkok
22:00	Bangkok
01:15	Cairo (EA)

CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre	41520
British Council	36147-8
French Cultural Centre	37009
Goethe Institute	41993
Soviet Cultural Centre	44203
Spanish Cultural Centre	24049
Turkish Cultural Centre	39777
Haya Arts Centre	65195
Al Husain Youth City	67193
Y.W.C.A.	41793
Y.W.M.A.	64251
Amman Municipal Library	3

FEATURES

Discreet Pink Panthers join trade unions

By Brian Groom

East and West bloc intelligence agencies are trying to subvert each other's trade union movements. Two recent books describe the efforts being made to reap political harvests from this new espionage field.

At the height of the Anthony Blunt spy scandal in Britain at the end of 1979, Mr. George Young, a former deputy director of MI6, declared that Soviet intelligence activities had shifted in emphasis since the 1950s from recruitment at the old universities to subversion in industry.

From the other side of the ideological divide, the Soviet news agency TASS has claimed that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency is providing funds, ostensibly raised by the AFL-CIO union federation, to buy printing and duplicating equipment which is smuggled into Poland for use by the independent union Solidarity.

A succession of similar allegations of secret hanky-panky with trade unionists on either side of the Iron Curtain has surprised no-one in an uncertain world of decaying detente.

Mr. Chapman Pincher, the self-appointed spy-watcher par excellence, claims that some left-wing union leaders and officials follow instructions from Moscow to try to reduce British living standards so that those prevailing in the Soviet Union will not seem so harsh.

But because assertions are generally offered more freely than evidence, because so much can be put down to propaganda, and because independent witnesses are rare in the strife-torn world of international trade unionism, few have even begun to ask the imp-

ortant question: how far are the allegations true?

Attention in the West has tended to focus on big power involvement with Third World union politics. The charity War on Want stirred up controversy in Britain in 1978 by publishing *Where Were You, Brother?*, a book by Don Thompson and Rodney Larson which alleged that links between the Trades Union Congress's international department and the Foreign Office were unhealthy close, and that Western trade unionists' money was being used against the interests of genuine Third World workers' movements, instead favouring the political and commercial aims of Western governments and business.

It drew together the many allegations of CIA "convert activities," citing evidence from Senate reports and from, among others, former CIA agents Philip Agee and Joseph Smith. The book also detailed some of the activities of the Prague-based World Federation of Trade Unions, the Communist world's union international. But Mr. Thompson, although he says the WFTU is "completely run" by the KGB, the Soviet intelligence service, has described the WFTU as "more of a shambles than any real and significant force."

However, there are those who feel that direct East-West intelligence in the trade union field has become a boom industry as

Western involvement in Eastern European economies has grown and the Eastern bloc has tried to penetrate Western markets.

Dr. G.K. Busch, former international research head of the U.S.'s United Auto Workers (UAW) and former assistant to the general secretary of the Geneva-based International Chemical, Energy and General Workers' Federation (ICF), claimed in a report published last year by the London-based Economist Intelligence Unit that Russian, Czechoslovak, and Polish intelligence organisations had made a "substantial effort" to expand contacts among Western unionists. This had become the main espionage field after military intelligence, he says.

Mutual trade union penetration, Dr. Busch claims, is aimed not only at providing information on products, markets and industrial relations problems which could be exploited, but also at establishing "sleepers" who in a war could try to disrupt production, energy supplies, and transport and communications links.

Dr. Busch describes this catalogue as "sketchy"; but he offers

no evidence at all of Western activities. Assuming their existence, he describes reasons for them: apart from the political advantage of promoting dissidence, Western governments' "seen economic advantage in side-stepping Eastern European dumping of products."

True or not, Western governments have probably felt a temptation to nurture the industrial unrest which the Eastern bloc's Soviet masters fear so much, and which has played a part in successive cracks in the Communist monolith from the East German workers' revolt in 1953 onwards.

These have reached a peak with the powerful alliance between intellectual dissidents and workers in the Polish crisis. Consistently Moscow has sought to compromise Solidarity's independence and split the workers from the dissidents, by lining it up with familiar Cold War enemies.

What TASS did not say was that even if the allegations are true, the activities would be very little different from those of Eastern Europe in support of the Portuguese

Communist union federation CGTP-Intersindical, which has received money, printing supplies, propaganda specialists and organisers from comrades in Eastern bloc unions practically indistinguishable from their governments.

The International Labour Organisation, a somewhat fragile forum for cooperation, suffered a major blow in 1977 when the U.S. pulled out in protest at the ILO's "politicisation" and ineffective record on human rights. The Americans rejoined last year, but received an immediate slap in the face in the form of a resolution condemning Israeli settlements on the West Bank.

Now the ILO, in a further blow to its credibility, has had to give up investigating charges that the Soviet Union contravened its Convention 87 by suppressing free trade unions. Soviet refusal to co-operate made the inquiry pointless.

— *Financial Times news features*

Poison gas fans enliven Pentagon debates

By Christopher Hanson
Reuters

WASHINGTON — A Pentagon board wants to deploy a large new arsenal of nerve gas, a poison that kills in minutes, in Britain as part of a multi-billion dollar build-up for possible chemical war in Europe, an army official says.

Assistant Deputy Army Secretary Amoretta Hoeber also told Reuters she wanted the military to conduct test firings of new nerve gas artillery shells at a proving ground in Utah, where 6,000 sheep died in a nerve gas accident 13 years ago.

But she said the Pentagon had not yet made plans for test firings of actual gas, as opposed to simulated chemicals.

She said the Pentagon's defence science board had recommended nerve gas bombs be deployed on

U.S. air bases in Britain partly because of concern that West Germany would not accept deployment of new chemical weapons on its soil.

She expects the board's recommendations to be taken seriously by the administration.

The gas is colourless and odourless and attacks the nervous system. Leading to uncontrollable vomiting and convulsions with suffocation occurring in minutes, although in some cases it could take hours.

Pentagon officials say the gas is safe in storage because two toxic chemicals, known as binaries, only become nerve gas when mixed after firing.

Despite such assurances, the nerve gas plan is likely to meet resistance in Western Europe, where protests against new nuclear weapons deployment have

increased steadily this year.

Retired U.S. Army chemical weapons development director, Saul Hormats, said chief victims of chemical warfare would be unprotected civilians who might die by the millions, along with domestic animals and wildlife.

Miss Hoeber said the most compelling reason for basing the bombs in Britain for possible use in air attack was the need to strike at the heart of a Soviet army if necessary.

She said artillery firing nerve gas shells would have a range of about 30 kilometres while aircraft from Western Europe could strike after firing.

Pentagon officials say the purpose of spending some two to four billion dollars on the new weapons programme is to deter the Soviet Union from unleashing its stockpile of nerve gas.

They say the current U.S. stockpile, some of which is based in West Germany, is deteriorating and poses storage hazards, and must be replaced with greater quantities of new nerve gas.

Miss Hoeber said President Reagan is expected to decide this year whether to resume nerve gas

production, which was stopped by President Nixon after the sheep accident at Utah's Dugway proving ground.

But following approval by Mr. Reagan and congress earlier this year of an initial \$20 million for a nerve gas factory, a debate has developed over whether binary weapons are really safe before firing, whether nerve gas deployment would deter Moscow and whether the weapons would work without extensive and dangerous testing.

Some civilian chemical warfare experts are not convinced the new binary weapons are as safe before use as the Pentagon says.

The Centre for Defense Information (CDI), a liberal research group, notes that even when stored separately, some binary chemicals are as toxic as strichine. Relative safety in storage also could lead to less stringent security and danger of theft.

However, Pentagon officials say there are signs that Soviet factories are working today.

They say there is also evidence that Communist forces have used nerve gas in Southeast Asia and Afghanistan.

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, JAN. 12, 1982

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The day starts with much discontent in the minds of persons around you. Later improved conditions make it easier to raise the level of your moods and activities. Be calm.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) The situation at home could prove to be tense until later in the day and then all smooths out to your satisfaction. Strive for happiness.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Take no risks in motion today. Be sure to take care of important communications at this time. Relax at home tonight.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You are now able to gain the help you need from business persons who have the know-how. Engage in favorite hobby tonight.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) You make little progress early in the day but by afternoon you can go about your business matters wisely.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Get busy at the work ahead of you and then make plans for a brighter future. Be sure to avoid an argument with loved one.

VENUS (Aug. 22 to Sept. 21) Take the time to assist a friend who is in trouble. Make plans to have more abundance in the future. Think constructively.

LIBRA (Sept. 22 to Oct. 21) Be certain to take care of career affairs in such a way that you meet with the approval of higher-ups. Use good judgment now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 22 to Nov. 21) Show that you appreciate the help given you by associates. You can easily obtain the information you need at this time.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Handle responsible duties early in the day so you'll have time for recreation later. Don't neglect a credit matter.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Find out what associates expect of you and come to a fine agreement with them. Ideal day for expansion.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Take time to make plans that could result in more income in the future. Engage in favorite hobby later in the day.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Exercise care in whatever you do in the morning for danger lurks. Spend within your means. Control your temper tonight.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will need more than average affection in order to properly stabilize this sensitive nature and delicate body. Direct the education along such lines as merchandising and business management and success is assured.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

Scientists battle

male impotence but cure far-off

By Peter Goodwin and Gill Nevill

Today few subjects are forbidden, but impotence is undoubtedly one of them. The men concerned are understandably loath to discuss such an intensely personal problem even with their doctors — particularly as little medical help is available even when they are sufficiently courageous to seek help. But now from the Hammersmith Hospital in London comes news of an important discovery which offers hope of an eventual cure for this widespread problem.

It must be the least discussed problem of the 1980's. Millions of men all over the world suffer from impotence, yet because of the taboo society places on the subject, they suffer in silence. Worse still, the existence of such a taboo means that even the scientists have shied away from the subject, with the result that we know less about it than about almost any other equally sidesplitting complaint. Our state of ignorance, like our state of mind, is medieval.

To break with tradition and not only to mention, but to investigate, the unmentionable takes courage. But that's exactly what scientists led by Dr. Julia Polak at London's Hammersmith Hospital have done. By a curious twist, her work depended on men sufficiently dissatisfied with their sex actually to change it. During the vital operation, the women-to-be dispense with the more male parts of their anatomy, and these formed the raw material for Dr. Julia Polak's meticulous laboratory investigation.

The scientists hope that now they know something of the mechanism involved it may be possible to develop drugs which mimic the action of VIP. These could then be administered as a supplement if for any reason the natural hormone was in short supply. Such a treatment, of course, is still a long way off. As with all new drugs, it may be years before a safe preparation is widely available. But at least a start has been made. Thanks to the pioneering work of Dr. Julia Polak and her colleagues in England, there is now a ray of hope for the millions of men who have suffered in silence.

— London Radio Service

THE Daily Crossword

By Judson G. Trent

ACROSS	35	Of certain poems	57	An Arden	13	Inspects	
1	Meat jelly	60	Passable	61	org.	19	Worldwide
6	Reed	62	Eat-all	62	Singles	22	
10	Field	63	Alman who	63	25 Twitches	27	Scottish
14	Robson	64	died for one	64	VIPS	28	
		65	Exist	65	28 Feign	29	Philippine
		66	of films	66	29 Native	30	native
		67	Support	67	30 Worship	31	30 Worship
		68	for birds	68	32 Package	32	31 — fideles"
		69	Castigate	69	delivery	33	32 Package
		70	42 Spill	70	34 Dutch —	34	33 Package
		71	43 Traveler	71	35 Aprés Avril	35	34 Dutch —
		72	45 Bobby of	72	36 Sins	36	35 Sins
		73	hockey	73	41 Cheap	41	41 Cheap
		74	46 Part of a	74	42 Larosa, etc.	42	42 Larosa, etc.
		75	river	75	47 Gorilla	47 Gorilla	47 Gorilla
		76	49 Cicatrix	76	48 Turfs	48 Turfs	48 Turfs
		77	50 Flea	77	51 Ms Tyson	51 Ms Tyson	51 Ms Tyson
		78	52 USSR	78	52 Kreisler's	52 Kreisler's	52 Kreisler's
		79	leaders	79	53 Ruh city	53 Ruh city	53 Ruh city
		80	54 Rhone	80	54 Spanish	54 Spanish	54 Spanish
		81	feeder	81	55 Ruhr city	55 Ruhr city	55 Ruhr city
		82	56 Phone	82	56 Spanish	56 Spanish	56 Spanish

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ODDIS	MAJOR	JUBIS
PEAK	FIAN	ASIA
ALTI	DICES	CHAT
PLAP	JACKS	AKENE
ATMAN	JULEP	AVERTS
BRICKS	TON	AMA
LOCKSUP	TUMBLED	BYE
YIE	RES	LOOTED
CAJOLIE	HAGGIS	LOOKS
AMARIA	MUBAT	LAOS
AMBER	BJACK	Burma, etc.
VOGE	CREME	47 Gorilla
THINS	ANON	48 Turfs
LASTI	ACRID	51 Ms Tyson
	CLITE	52 Kreisler's
	KLEEE	53 Ruh city

1	2	3	4	5	6

WORLD

Adamant Walesa forces Warsaw to revise plans

WARSAW, Jan. 11 (R) — Poland's military authorities have started to consider discounting the leader of the suspended Solidarity free trade union, Lech Walesa, in their plans for the future, well-informed sources said today.

Mr. Walesa has been under house arrest since the military takeover and martial law was imposed on Dec. 13.

The sources said the ruling military council of national salvation had planned originally to persuade Mr. Walesa to resume the leadership of Solidarity after it had been trimmed of radicals, dissidents and others regarded as dangerously anti-Communist.

They added, however, that Mr. Walesa's refusal to cooperate had forced a change of plan. The authorities now felt that in the long term he could be replaced as leader of any new union receiving official recognition which rose in the name of Solidarity.

But the sources said no decisions had yet been made on the future of Solidarity. Opinions among the country's leaders were divided between those who wanted to erase the name and those who wanted to revive the organisation as a tamed version of the original.

Solidarity insisted on full worker ownership of factories, with the right to hire and fire managers.

Last-minute jump saves Malaysian foreign minister from sudden death

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan. 11 (R) — Malaysia's foreign minister was rescued from dense jungle today after surviving a plane crash by jumping out seconds before the crash.

Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie had been feared dead yesterday but today, he waved from his hospital bed and described how he became the only one of the three people in the aircraft to survive.

The minister also told reporters he was stranded helpless for 30 hours in a ravine without food before he was discovered by rescue parties.

Police search teams set out soon after the Cessna light aircraft carrying Tan Sri Ghazali to his parliamentary constituency disappeared on the 150-kilometre flight.

The 59-year-old minister, an experienced pilot, was co-piloting the aircraft when it crashed only 40 kilometres from Kuala Lumpur.

Workers' role defined

Meanwhile, the minister for economic reform was quoted today as saying that workers' control of factories must be introduced or restored as soon as possible.

But Prof. Wladyslaw Baka told the Communist Party newspaper *Tribuna Ludu* that Poland had to live through a "discipline-restoration period of martial law" before worker self-management could happen.

"The point is to make this period last as briefly as possible and to eliminate as quickly as possible the causes that brought it about," the official news agency PAP quoted him as saying.

Prof. Baka said that as soon as conditions permitted "worker self-management must be introduced or restored. Only then does the term 'reform' correspond to the ideas it represents."

The issue of worker self-management was one of the most controversial raised in negotiations last year between the government and Solidarity.

Solidarity insisted on full worker ownership of factories, with the right to hire and fire managers.

Last-minute jump saves Malaysian foreign minister from sudden death

It came down in a valley after negotiating in poor visibility a narrow pass through a mountain range.

His flying instructor and a security aide were killed and their bodies recovered.

Tan Sri Ghazali escaped with bruises.

"Suddenly trees came up in front of us," he said after being flown by helicopter to hospital.

"I unstrapped my seatbelt, opened the door and jumped out... I thought the others did the same."

The minister, who became known internationally recently for his campaign against the influx of Vietnamese boat people, said he headed towards a village but fell into a ravine.

He was eventually found there, only 65 metres from the wreckage of the aircraft.

"I had not eaten since breakfast, so I drank the ravine water and later tried to get some sleep since I could not get out of the ravine," he said.

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Poles behind Paris attacks?

PARIS, Jan. 11 (A.P.) — A group protesting the "arrests and assassinations of Polish workers" has claimed responsibility for three explosions in Paris last night that caused major damage to three businesses but no injuries.

Police said the explosions occurred within minutes of each other at a French-Polish firm dealing in tools and sporting goods, a Soviet watch company and a firm dealing in industrial chemical filters.

No damage figures were immediately available.

An anonymous telephone caller contacted the French news agency Agence France Presse about three hours after the explosions and said the attacks were the work of the "Bakunin Gdansk Group in Paris."

The caller also said the group was responsible for a Dec. 20 bombing in Paris that damaged a Polish transport company.

According to police, Bakunin Gdansk said it had chosen to attack the three firms because they had trade links with Eastern bloc countries.

Polish crisis provides backdrop as Geneva talks resume today

ACCRA, Jan. 11 (Agencies) — Ghana restored full diplomatic relations with Libya today, the 12-day old Provisional National Defence Council (PNDC) said in a statement.

The move was seen as the first foreign policy act by Flt. Lt. Jerry Rawlings since his New Year's Eve coup that toppled President Hilla Limann.

Flt. Lt. Rawlings was quoted by the Ghanaian press today as asking the Libyan delegation to con-

Pakistan relaxes censorship but not on political news

Zia inaugurates advisory council as opponents brew own formula

ISLAMABAD, Jan. 11 (R) — Pakistani's military ruler, Gen. Mohammad Zia Ul Haq, today opened the inaugural session of a nominated civilian council charged with recommending ways of ending martial law quickly and restoring democracy.

The National Assembly building, unused since Gen. Zia seized power more than four years ago, was reopened for what he described as an historic occasion which would have a deep impact on national life.

President Zia has said the Federal Advisory Council will be an intermediate stage between the military and a civilian government.

Told the 288 councillors he wanted them to recommend the type of democracy to be applied in Pakistan.

"You will tell us what will be its practical form and what measures should be adopted to implement it as quickly as possible," he said.

President Zia told the council that daily newspapers would no longer have to submit articles for

censorship. But he later told reporters that as political activity was still banned in Pakistan nothing could be written on this subject.

Other subjects that could not be reported were stories that were prejudicial to the state religion, Islam, and those that endangered national security, encouraged communal or regional prejudice and harmed the dignity of the armed forces or judiciary.

Newspaper editors would be expected to exercise "Self-censorship" now that their stories could be published without prior clearance by a censor.

Earlier, leaders of eight main political parties linked in an alliance called the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy reached preliminary agreement at a clandestine meeting on a formula to end martial law.

Informed sources said most of the eight parties, including the Pakistan People's Party of executed Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, decided to campaign for a

"grand national assembly" of 500 politicians who were either elected or came second in voting during the country's last two general elections in 1970 and 1977.

The assembly would elect a president and prime minister to run the country until general elections were held.

The sources said the proposal would be sent to President Zia as a way of ending the deadlock between political parties who want unconditional general elections and the country's generals who are determined to install a new political system.

The federal advisory council includes many members or former members of political parties but no present leaders of political parties.

President Zia announced that a 66-year-old right-wing politician, Khwaja Mohammad Safdar, a member of one faction of Pakistan's oldest political party, the Muslim League, would be chairman of the council.

Britons still in grips with winter freeze

LONDON, Jan. 11 (A.P.) — Britons fought their way slowly back to work today as a fresh winter freeze continued to grip the nation, delaying thousands of road and rail commuters.

Workers in West Germany faced similar problems, as more than 15 centimetres of snow fell in Cologne and the capital, Bonn, snarling the heavy morning rush hour. In Poland, severe floods around the city of Plock, 80 kilometres northwest of Warsaw, forced the evacuation of 4,000 people and caused massive damage to property. Warsaw Radio reported.

In Britain, a post-mortem was being carried out on a 11-month-old boy who died overnight in Braintree, Essex, apparently from lack of heat in the public housing complex where he lived. His death would bring the number of cold-snap victims to 14 since Friday.

Britain's rush to work was chaotic -- and nowhere more so than Wales, which was virtually cut off from the rest of Britain by weekend snows that drifted as high as 4 metres.

Hundreds of abandoned cars littered snow-covered Welsh highways. Motorists spent their third night in emergency centres in the market town of Bridgend. The Australian Rugby Union team, which has just completed a British tour, had to charter three helicopters to take the 35-man squad from Porthcawl, Wales, to London's Heathrow airport for the flight home.

Both Heathrow and Gatwick airports were operating normally, although passengers were told to expect long delays.

Though the snowstorms that lashed the British Isles Friday and Saturday subsided, giving way in most places to sunny weather, the temperature was still bitterly cold.

Hundreds of subway commuters in London were delayed for up to an hour by trains stuck in tunnels in the city's complex network.

British Rail said only half the scheduled timetable was operating between London and the cities of Liverpool and Manchester.

The coldest place in Britain overnight was Carnwath, Scotland, where the thermometer fell to -24.8 degrees C.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

U.S. team pays surprise visit to Peking

PEKING, Jan. 11 (R) — A top-level U.S. delegation headed by Assistant Secretary of State John Holdridge has made a surprise visit to Peking for talks with Chinese officials, U.S. diplomats said today. The diplomats refused to say which officials Mr. Holdridge would be meeting or how long he was expected to stay in Peking. A State Department spokesman in Washington said Mr. Holdridge would "discuss in detail international and bilateral matters of mutual concern." Talks are expected to centre on the Reagan administration's proposed arms sales to Taiwan, which are opposed by the Chinese as interference in their internal affairs. The spokesman indicated that the role of the Soviet Union in the military clampdown in Poland would also be discussed.

Armenians start hunger strike in France

PARIS, Jan. 11 (R) — Four Armenian guerrillas awaiting trial in the storming of the Turkish consulate last year began a hunger strike for political prisoner status today, the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) said. In a telephone call to a reporter an ASALA spokeswoman said France had broken its promise to grant the guerrillas political asylum and ASALA planned to support their campaign. "The French authorities will therefore take responsibility for the blows we will inflict," she said. The four men killed a Turkish guard and held several dozen hostages in the consulate for 16 hours last September. ASALA said they surrendered on the understanding they would get political asylum, but France said they were told only they would not be extradited.

Haitian forces retake Tortuga from rebels

MIAMI, Jan. 11 (R) — Haitian security forces today apparently regained control of the tiny island of Tortuga from a small band of invading rebels, the Miami Herald newspaper reported. Its correspondent in Haiti quoted sources close to the government as saying that the rebels fled into the hills after an exchange of gunfire with security forces. A Haitian government spokesman said yesterday that at least three Haitians and one white man had landed on Tortuga, seven miles off the Caribbean republic's northwest coast, and had taken over the local garrison. Bernard Sansaricq, a longtime foil of Haitian President-for-life Jean-Claude Duvalier and his father and predecessor as President "Papa Doc" Duvalier, told another Miami Herald reporter today that his forces controlled Tortuga island. Mr. Sansaricq is reported to be coordinating an attempt to overthrow the government from a base in the Turks and Caicos islands, a British colony at the southern tip of the Bahamian archipelago. He said in a communiqué seen in Miami that he was on his way to Tortuga to establish a provisional government.

Women dope carriers arrested in Milan

MILAN, Jan. 11 (A.P.) — Two women, one Argentine-born and the other Syrian, were arrested in this north Italian city yesterday on charges of smuggling and marketing narcotics. Police seized in their hotel room 2.6 kilogrammes of pure heroin with a street value of 2.5 billion lire (\$2 million). Officers speculated the women were part of an international drug ring. They were identified as Marcella Pilar Rodriguez, 44, and Sounela Sahloul, 43.

U.S. embassy hunger strikers warned

MOSCOW, Jan. 11 (A.P.) — Two U.S. Congressmen said today they warned two Soviet women Pentecostalists to end their hunger strike at the U.S. embassy in Moscow or face being handed over to Soviet officials.

"Medical doctors tell us there is very little reserve left and a life-threatening situation could occur at any time. Should that occur, the American embassy would have no choice but to transport them into Soviet hands, where hopefully they would be put in a hospital," Representative Elliott Levitas, a Georgia Democrat, told Western correspondents.

"If, because of a medical emergency, they should be turned over to the Soviets, then they would have lost the very cause they have been struggling for these past

three and a half years," Mr. Levitas said.

Augustina Vaschenko, 52, and her daughter, Lydia, 31, are in the third week of a protest fast at their room in the embassy basement to dramatize their efforts to emigrate on religious grounds.

Five members of the Vaschenko family and two from the Chm-

ylakov family — members of the Russian Pentecostal sect — ran past a Soviet guard into the embassy on June 27, 1978, and were granted refuge.

The two women started their fast to protest the failure of U.S. and Soviet authorities to reach an agreement permitting them to emigrate to the United States.

He told reporters: "There are fundamental advantages to the West as well as the East in the continuation of a dialogue seeking control of nuclear armaments."

U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, now in Brussels for consultations on Poland with America's European allies in the Avenue of Peace.

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keeps silent on the details of the discussions — the first arms bar-

gaining negotiations between the superpowers for two and a half years.

Mr. Nitze, 74, told reporters at the start of the talks on Nov. 30 that "hard issues" separated the two sides and it would not help if he were to engage in public debate on the problems.

President Reagan has proposed dropping plans to deploy 572 new Pershing and Cruise missiles in several NATO countries to Moscow dismantle all the SS-20, SS-4 and SS-5 launchers it already installed in Eastern Europe.

The 10-man delegations, headed by Paul Nitze for the United States and Yuli Kvitsinsky for the Soviet Union, alternate their sessions between the U.S. and Soviet missions at opposite ends of Geneva's Avenue de la Paix (Avenue of Peace).

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It will include \$3.2 billion in military sales and an economic aid package being provided by the United States over the next six years, starting in fiscal 1982.

The White House also agreed to sell Pakistan 40 F-16 aircraft, which New Delhi alleged might be used by Islamabad against strategic Indian targets. Pakistan denies any such intentions.

The allegations traded between Islamabad and New Delhi are that the U.S. withdrawal, saying it only polarised the agency further and worsened the problems the Americans were complaining about.

The ICFTU declared itself bitterly opposed to the U.S. withdrawal, saying it only polarised the agency further and worsened the problems the Americans were complaining about.

Since Mr. Meany's death in 1980, his successor, Lane Kirkland, has been striving to rebuild the bridges the former leader burned.

The need to take part once again in a major international forum was driven home by the economic recession and the threat it posed to trade unions everywhere, according to ICFTU officials.

ICFTU view transatlantic shake as hand strengthening

By Andrew Gowers
Reuter